

# Marriage & Divorce

## An Overview: 2006

### Marriages:

Number Occurring in S.D.	6,303
S.D. Rate per 1,000 Population	8.4
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population *	7.3*
Age of Bride for South Dakota Residents (Years)	
Mean	29
Median	26
Mode	23
Range	
Lower	16
Upper	86
Age of Groom for South Dakota Residents (Years)	
Mean	32
Median	28
Mode	24
Range	
Lower	17
Upper	93

### Divorces and Annulments:

Number Occurring in S.D.	2,465
S.D. Rate Per 1,000 Population	3.3
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population*	3.6*
Years Married Before Termination in S.D.	
Mean	10
Median	7
Mode	2
Range	
Lower	Less Than 1
Upper	57

Note: \*U.S. data are provisional.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health. Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

## Marriages in South Dakota

In the last 30 years, marriage rates in South Dakota reached their peak in 1978 with a rate of 15.4. In 2006, the South Dakota marriage rate was 8.4, a 3.4 percent decrease from 2005. On the following page is Table

73, which provides the United States and South Dakota marriage rates from 1977 through 2006. Figure 27, on the next page, illustrates the changes in these rates over this time frame.

**Table 73**  
**Marriages and Marriage Rates by Occurrence,**  
**South Dakota and United States, 1977-2006**

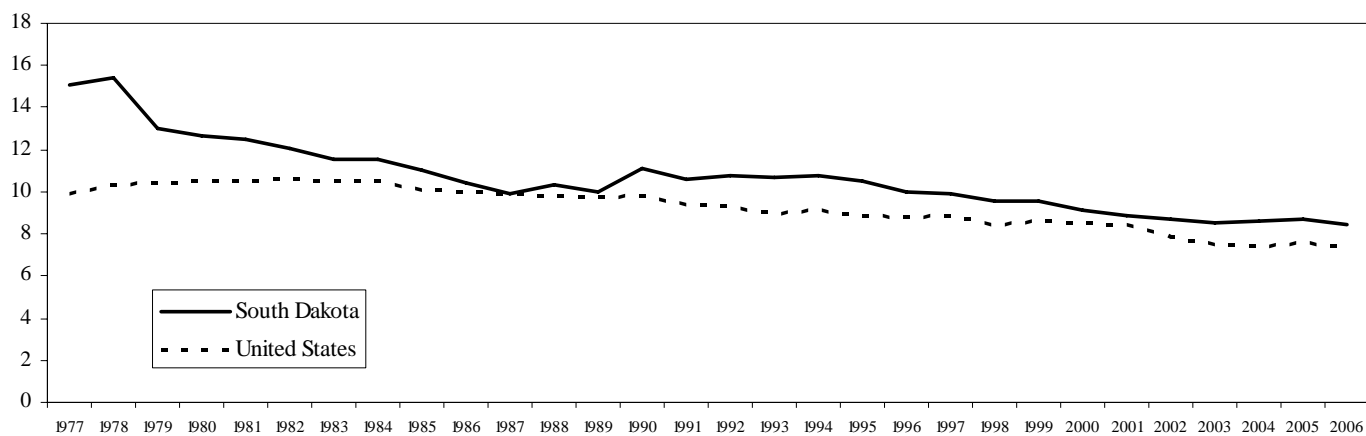
Year	United States		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2006	2,160,000	7.3	6,303	8.4
2005	2,249,000	7.6	6,551	8.7
2004	2,279,000	7.8	6,485	8.6
2003	2,187,000	7.5	6,427	8.5
2002	2,254,000	7.8	6,585	8.7
2001	2,327,000	8.4	6,719	8.9
2000	2,329,000	8.5	6,882	9.1
1999	2,358,000	8.6	6,863	9.9
1998	2,256,000	8.4	6,705	9.6
1997	2,384,000	8.9	6,867	9.9
1996	2,344,000	8.8	6,991	10.0
1995	2,336,000	8.9	7,283	10.5
1994	2,362,000	9.1	7,528	10.8
1993	2,334,000	9.0	7,413	10.7
1992	2,362,000	9.3	7,549	10.8
1991	2,371,000	9.4	7,374	10.6
1990	2,443,489	9.8	7,716	11.1
1989	2,403,268	9.7	7,108	10.0
1988	2,395,926	9.8	7,328	10.3
1987	2,403,378	9.9	6,996	9.9
1986	2,407,099	10.0	7,386	10.4
1985	2,412,625	10.1	7,793	11.0
1984	2,477,192	10.5	8,057	11.5
1983	2,445,604	10.5	8,013	11.5
1982	2,456,278	10.6	8,353	12.1
1981	2,422,145	10.5	8,662	12.5
1980	2,390,252	10.5	8,800	12.7
1979	2,331,337	10.4	8,978	13.0
1978	2,282,272	10.3	10,638	15.4
1977	2,178,367	9.9	10,359	15.1

Note: Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics

South Dakota Department of Health , Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Figure 27**  
**Marriages Occurring in South Dakota and United States, 1977-2006**



Note: Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

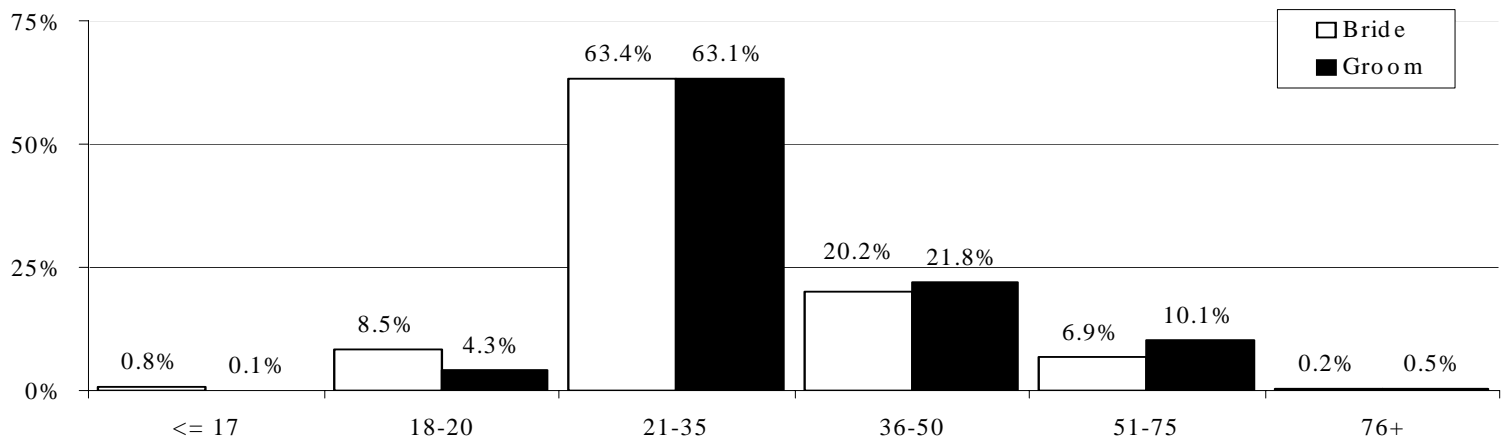
Source: National Center for Health Statistics

South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

For South Dakota residents, the mean or average age of brides in 2006 was 29 years of age, the median age was 26, and the modal age was 23. The age of brides in 2006 ranged from a low of 16 to a high of

86. The mean age of South Dakota resident grooms in 2006 was 32 years of age, the median age was 28, and the modal age was 24. The age of grooms in 2006 ranged from a low of 17 to a high of 93.

**Figure 28**  
**Brides and Grooms by Age Group for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2006**



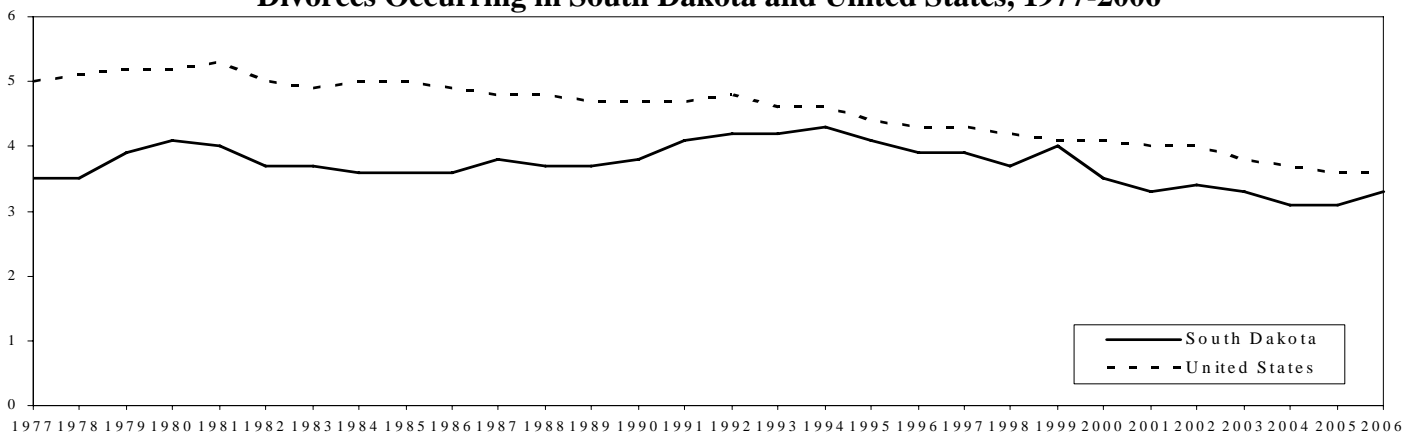
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

### Divorces in South Dakota

For comparisons over time, Figure 29 below, illustrates the rates for South Dakota and national divorce rates from 1977 to 2006. Table 74, page 88, lists the rates for

South Dakota and the United States. As displayed, the 2006 South Dakota divorce rate was 3.3 divorces per 1,000 population, which increased slightly from 2005.

**Figure 29**  
**Divorces Occurring in South Dakota and United States, 1977-2006**



Note: Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Table 74**  
**Number and Rate of Divorces and Annulments by Occurrence,**  
**South Dakota and United States, 1977-2006**

Year	United States		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2006	**	3.6	2,465	3.3
2005	**	3.6	2,354	3.1
2004	**	3.7	2,358	3.1
2003	**	3.8	2,502	3.3
2002	**	4.0	2,561	3.4
2001	**	4.0	2,522	3.3
2000	**	4.1	2,678	3.5
1999	**	4.1	2,750	4.0
1998	1,135,000	4.2	2,581	3.7
1997	1,163,000	4.3	2,738	3.9
1996	1,150,000	4.3	2,749	3.9
1995	1,169,000	4.4	2,879	4.1
1994	1,191,000	4.6	2,969	4.3
1993	1,187,000	4.6	2,895	4.2
1992	1,215,000	4.8	2,932	4.2
1991	1,187,000	4.7	2,859	4.1
1990	1,182,000	4.7	2,651	3.8
1989	1,157,000	4.7	2,624	3.7
1988	1,167,000	4.8	2,649	3.7
1987	1,166,000	4.8	2,696	3.8
1986	1,178,000	4.9	2,585	3.6
1985	1,190,000	5.0	2,566	3.6
1984	1,169,000	5.0	2,498	3.6
1983	1,158,000	4.9	2,556	3.7
1982	1,170,000	5.0	2,564	3.7
1981	1,213,000	5.3	2,772	4.0
1980	1,189,000	5.2	2,811	4.1
1979	1,181,000	5.2	2,665	3.9
1978	1,130,000	5.1	2,449	3.5
1977	1,091,000	5.0	2,436	3.5

Note: \*\*U.S. data are not available.

Crude divorce rates are per 1,000 population.

Beginning in 1991, the United States data are based on estimates.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics

South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

For South Dakota divorces, the mean or average duration of the marriages ending in divorce during 2006 was 10 years, the median duration was seven years, and the

modal duration was two years. The length of time before terminating the marriage ranged from less than one year to 57 years for 2006 South Dakota divorces.